

Letter to Council on Environmental Quality Chair designee notes importance of Delta ecosystem,

January 6, 2009

Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) sent a letter to Nancy Sutley, President of the Council on Environmental Quality.

The letter encourages Ms. Sutley to advocate for returning the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to health and to ensure that the Delta is managed in a way that is consistent with the National Water Research Institute's findings.

The text of the letter to <http://McNerney.house.gov/2009/01/06/letter-to-sutley-is-06-09.pdf> is available below as well as a copy of the letter.

January 6, 2009

Nancy Sutley, Council on Environmental Quality Chair designee
Obama-Biden Presidential Transition Headquarters
451 6th Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Ms. Sutley,

Congratulations on your nomination to serve as chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality.

One issue of particular importance is the crisis that faces the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the West's largest water body.

As you know from your service on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board as well as your work on the Delta, the Delta is in a state of crisis.

In attempting to address these problems and to continue providing a reliable water supply across the state, we need your leadership.

There is no question that we have to figure out a sensible way to ensure the health of the Delta and provide for the needs of the people of California.

With the power and responsibility to oversee multiple aspects of Delta land and water management, the Council on Environmental Quality has a critical role to play.

In executing federal water policy in the region, I ask that you fully and accurately investigate the viability of various options.

Additionally, I implore you to pursue other water management strategies that would negate the need for the Delta.

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is not only critically important to those who live, recreate and farm in

Sincerely,

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress